Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 04364 071507Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /083 W

-----071510Z 099025 /40

O R 071420Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7761

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

EUCOM

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ANKARA 4364

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH ELECTION RESULTS -- AN UPDATE

REF: ANKARA 4346 (DTG 071007Z JUN 77)

1. WITH NEARLY 99 PERCENT OF THE POLLING PLACES REPORTING AND COUNTING COMPLETED IN 64 OF THE 67 PRIVINCES, TURKISH RADIO REPORTS THE FOLLOWING UNOFFICIAL RESULTS:

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CONFIRMED SEATS PERCENTAGE

SO FAR OF VOTE

REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) 210 41.4

JUSTICE PARTY (JP) 185 36.9

NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) 25 8.6

NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY (NAP) 15 6.4

REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) 3 1.9

DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) 1 1.9 INDEPENDENTS 4 2.5

2. THESE MOST RECENT RETURNS HAVE FURTHER UNDERMINED ECEVIT'S RPP'S HOPES THAT IT WOULD COME CLOSE ENOUGH TO AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY TO ENABLE IT TO GOVERN WITHOUT A COALITION PARTNER. WE UNDERSTAND FROM RPP SOURCES THAT IT PRESENTLY IS EXPECTING TO WIN ONLY 214 SEATS, LEAVING IT 12 SHORT OF THOSE NECESSARY FOR A MAJORITY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. (SOME SOURCES THINK THE RPP WILL WIN ONLY 212.) RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT'S TASK OF FORMING A GOVERNMENT IS APPEARING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT. LIKEWISE, IT APPEARS INCREASINGLY LIKELY THAT NSP CHAIRMAN NECMETTIN ERBAKAN, ALTHOUGH HE HAS SUFFERED FROM A SPLIT IN HIS PARTY AND A LOSS OF APPROXIMATELY 15 SEATS INTHE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MAY END UP AGAIN IN A POSITION TO DICTATE WHETHER ECEVIT OR DEMIREL WILL FORM THE NEXT TURKISH GOVERNMENT. AS THINGS NOW STAND, THE FOUR PARTIES MAKING UP THE DEMIREL COALITION HAVE COLLECTIVELY WON AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY. IN VIEW OF THEIR UNHAPPY EXPERIENCES WITH ONE ANOTHER OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, HOWEVER, IT IS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT THIS COALITION COULD BE RECONSTITUTED. REGARDLESS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAST PRACTICES. ECEVIT'S PLURALITY WILL GIVE HIM THE FIRST CHANCE TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT. MACOMBER

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